AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1-13. (Cancelled).

14. (currently amended): A method for producing an optical transmission cable from at least one tube inside of which a plurality of optical fibers are arranged, and strengthening elements, one of the said strengthening elements, constituting a central strengthening member, being arranged at the center of said cable and certain strengthening elements constituting peripheral strengthening members, said at least one tube being twisted about said central strengthening member using a tubular machine so as to form a peripheral layer around said central strengthening member, the peripheral strengthening members and said at least one tube having diameters sufficiently close to each other to ensure said peripheral layer is homogeneous, wherein the central strengthening member, the at least one tube and the peripheral strengthening members are unwound from respective reels disposed in the tubular machine.

15. (currently amended): The method for producing an optical transmission cable according to claim 14, wherein said central strengthening member ~~is first unwound from a reel located in said tubular machine, then~~ passes through a greasing tank ~~also~~ situated in said tubular machine, and then exits at an end of said tubular machine.

16. (previously presented): The method for producing an optical transmission cable according to claim 14, wherein the optical transmission cable is an aerial cable.

17. (previously presented): The method for producing an optical transmission cable according to claim 16, wherein the optical transmission cable is a ground or phase cable.

18. (currently amended): A tubular machine for producing an optical transmission cable including a central strengthening member, at least one tube inside of which a plurality of optical fibers are arranged and peripheral strengthening elements, said at least one tube and said peripheral strengthening members being wound around said central strengthening member, said machine having a plurality of reels located inside the tubular machine from which said central strengthening member, said at least one tube and said peripheral strengthening members are respectively unwound, wherein a greasing tank and a guiding device are provided between said plurality of reels and an end of said tubular machine, and wherein said central strengthening member is unwound from a reel located ~~arranged whereby a strengthening element unwinding from a reel~~ closest to said greasing tank and passes through said greasing tank before exiting at an end of the tubular machine.

19. (canceled):

20. (previously presented): The tubular machine according to claim 18, wherein all of said reels have the same size whereby said tubular machine maintains a constant diameter.

21. (previously presented): The tubular machine according to claim 19, wherein all of said reels have the same size whereby said tubular machine maintains a constant diameter.

22. (currently amended): A system for producing an optical transmission cable having at least two peripheral layers, comprising an inner peripheral layer and an outer peripheral layer, said outer peripheral layer being twisted about said inner peripheral layer, implementing a method for producing the optical transmission cable from at least one tube inside of which a plurality of optical fibers is arranged, and strengthening elements, one of the said strengthening elements, constituting a central strengthening member, being arranged at the center of said cable and certain strengthening elements constituting peripheral strengthening members, said at least one tube being twisted about said central strengthening member using a tubular machine so as to form ~~a~~ the inner peripheral layer around said central strengthening member, the peripheral strengthening members and said at least one tube having diameters sufficiently close to each other to ensure said inner peripheral layer is homogeneous, wherein the central strengthening member, the at least one tube and the peripheral strengthening members associated with the inner peripheral layer are unwound from respective reels disposed in the tubular machine.

23. (currently amended): The system for producing an optical transmission cable according to claim ~~21~~ 22 employing, to implement said method, ~~a tubular machine having a plurality of reels located inside the tubular machine~~ wherein all of said reels have the same size whereby said tubular machine maintains a constant diameter wherein a greasing tank and a guiding device are provided between said ~~plurality of~~ reels and an end of said tubular machine, arranged whereby a strengthening element unwinding from a reel closest to said greasing tank passes through said greasing tank before exiting at an end of the tubular machine.

24. (previously presented): The system according to claim 22, wherein the two peripheral layers are provided using two tubular machines arranged one after the other.

25. (previously presented): The system according to claim 22, wherein the two peripheral layers are obtained using two separate steps employing two tubular machines.

26. (currently amended): The system according to claim 22, wherein the inner peripheral layer is obtained using ~~a~~ the tubular machine and said outer peripheral layer is obtained using a planetary machine, the tubular machine and planetary machine being arranged one after the other.

27. (currently amended): The system according to claim 22, wherein the said inner peripheral layer is produced during a first step using ~~a~~ the tubular machine and said outer

peripheral layer is produced during a second step separate from said first step, using a planetary machine.

28. (currently amended): The system according to claim 24, wherein ~~the~~ said two machines rotate in mutually opposite directions.

29. (currently amended): The system according to claim 25, wherein ~~the~~ said two machines rotate in mutually opposite directions.

30. (currently amended): The system according to claim 26, wherein ~~the~~ said two machines rotate in mutually opposite directions.

31. (currently amended): The system according to claim 27, wherein ~~the~~ said two machines rotate in mutually opposite directions.

Kindly add the following new claims:

32. The method for producing an optical transmission cable according to claim 14, wherein the strengthening members are made of metal.

33. The tubular machine according to claim 18, wherein the strengthening members are made of metal.

34. The system for producing an optical transmission cable according to claim 22, wherein the strengthening members are made of metal.